

TINYMALL

FIFTY - THREE

And another four weeks have absolutely flown past to bring us together again. I didn't get the job in Leicester, which was just as well as I've been promoted at the Poly so I'm now a Senior Lecturer in Nappy-washing and Bottle-preparing. Lectures in these esoteric techniques are given at the Poly, but practical classes are held at the abode of one Bob Brown (ie me) of 53 Broadwood Drive, Fulwood, Preston PR2 4SS. If you care to phone the numbers are Preston 863459 (home) and Preston 51831 ext 219 at work, however the latter may not be very productive as it is vacation time now. If you call me at home, don't be too surprised if you get a loud howl down the phone - I usually find that the phone rings when I'm carrying Matthew (sod's law) and I have to balance him whilst answering it - he doesn't much like the arrangement as one or two of you have found out this weekend.

Price 10p.

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DEADLINES

En Garde to Dave Waring by Saturday July 28th
Everything else to me and Ron by Friday August 3rd

DEADLINES

Ron Fisher, 85 Studfold, Astley Park, Chorley. Lancs. (Tel Chorley 70030)
Dave Waring, 39 Grange Rd., Bishops Stortford. Herts. (Tel BS 54835 after 7pm weekdays)

It looks as if the post may be going up the creek in the near future. It isn't too good at the moment as you can see by the two Railway Rivals games I've had to hold over due to the time taken for letters to get too and from Japan and from the IFR's we have this time. If you've sent your orders but they haven't arrived, you have my sympathy to some extent, but you must have known the post was bad so you should have posted your letter sooner or rung up to check it had arrived or both. Any orders which arrive in the post tomorrow morning will be accepted, but I aim to have this in the post tomorrow afternoon so any others will be out of luck. In the longer term, I've taken the precaution of getting sufficient stamps to enable me to post T54 and I would hope that this action by the stamp clerks should be over by then. On the bright side, the Irish strike is over and Cybercrud 4 should be off the ground next issue (touch wood!).

As you can see above, this is one of those funny issues which only costs you 10p. Future issues will be 20p. Yes, I've finally got around to sorting out the pricing - I've had it in mind for a while but decided to wait until after the zine poll before announcing it. The coming postal increase will not affect the price, but after the 'B' game, regular Diplomacy will cost £1 for the gamefee and Railway Rivals will go up to 50p when the present list has filled.

As you will see inside, there is a piece about the future of Dolchstoss. Since I wrote it I have consulted with various parties and I will be offering to run the three games I mentioned. There should be a covering letter for any of the players who take T as well as D. This will last only until the time that Richard wants the games back when he gets Dolchstoss back on the road. I'll be seeing him next weekend as he's staying with us when he comes up for Fisher's wedding (of which there will be a very full report next time - should be very good with Richard & his lass, Pete Dirks, Craig & Ellie and Willy Haughan coming up, not to mention Stuart Dagger, Andy Holborn & Tony Sturt who are

already here). Wakefield said that he couldn't make it although he's in the country at the moment because he's going to a concert which his son is involved in in Canterbury. Sounds like a miserable excuse to me, Doug, I reckon that you've gone soft after spending this time in France and can't face the thought of NW ale in substantial quantities. Those of you that have contributed to the present for the 'happy couple' will be pleased to know that although we didn't get enough for the portable telly (that's Fisher being optimistic as ever) we have got about £40 and Noelle is going to let me know what they would like us to do with the money.

I hear that one of the established zines will soon be leaving us for good - the publisher would like to pass on his zine in its entirety to some up and coming superstar who is thinking of going into zine production. This is, in my opinion, the best way for a zine to fold - after all, that's how I got started. If there's anyone out there who is interested, please write to me and I will forward your letters to the editor concerned. The changeover wouldn't be necessary for quite a while yet.

REF: Aubergine Reproductions/DASH0001

Dear Mr. Wormwood,

His Superfluid the Editor (may the dew always form on his webbed feet) has been so troubled by your snivelling self as to refer your semanticless grumblings back to the Central Intelligence Aubergine.

Lest your outrageous claims (which have, due to an unfortunate error, reached the light of day) corrupt any of The Tinamou's delicate readership, we herein refute your baseless allegations.

Firstly, your "accurate 3-dimensional representation" is in fact a mere coating topologically equivalent to the surface of a sphere (although in your case a gross distortion of such perfection). We think it better suited for submission to World Dredging than the U.F.O.-ologists Globe.

Your parametrised equation alas bears little resemblance to anything more than a squashed pear. How dare you insult an Aubergine by descending into the complex plane when x exceeds 2 or lies within the range -2 to -1 ? Gauss would turn in his grave. Worst of all, the unbounded behaviour as one approaches -2 from below!! "The limitations of the finite do not come merely from without; its own nature is the cause of its abrogation, and by its own act it passes into its counterpart" (1).

Finally, we have been overwhelmed by complaints about you from the large numbers of hamsters amongst The Tinamou's readership. "Who hears the fishes when they scream?" (2). You will, when we get our hands on you....

Yours,

M.S. Feather pp Supreme Aubergine

- (1) Hegel
- (2) Thoreau

((I trust that this answers your miserable allegations, Mr. Wormwood - ed.))

OGSCON

Saturday 15/16th of September

Students Union Building, Ashby Rd., Loughborough. Leicestershire.

Entrance £1 for both days (not 50p per day) in advance, £1.25 on the day. B&B on the premises for £4 per night and cafeteria open on both days. Also a bar. Saturday 10am-10pm, Sunday 10am-6pm (approx)

Nominally an SF/F Con

Contact: Chris Harvey, 11 Woodside Way, Aldridge. Walsall.

Oh, and anybody that didn't get a CoordieCon handout last time that wants one - I've got a couple more which came with other zines.

"MECROMANCER" is a monthly games 'zine designed to cater for those who wish to play Fantasy, Science-Fiction and other games by post. Available from D.J. Parry of 132. Mammoth Rd., Wisbech, Cambs PE13 2JD. So saith the initial lines of the first issue, which is mimeo and poorly printed. However, the last couple of issues of T haven't been exactly brilliantly produced and as Dave has only just started I'm not going to worry about the quality of the reproduction as it will improve with practise. (As an aside - Dave, hasn't your typewriter got a control to vary the impact with which the keys hit the stencil? That should solve your problems regarding underlining and the middles of O's missing.). Issue 1 is mainly taken up with introductions and comments on how he intends to run his games, but there is an article on the use of firearms in D&D, a more realistic hit-point system for the same and a few comments about the design of monsters for fantasy games.

Dave has started out by attracting people to play Chivalry and Sorcery and his waiting list is full for that, but he is also offering Starships & Spacemen, D&D, En Garde and Traveller (the last three dependant on his acquiring GM's - any volunteers?). He also offers Diplomacy and several variants, some wargames (Star Soldier, 1st Crusade and Sniper) and Star Probe. That sounds like an awful lot to be starting with to be honest and I hope that you're not taking on too much too quickly, Dave. I wonder whether you really need the D&D and En Garde and some of these variants at this stage? Still, he's prepared to offer games which I've not seen elsewhere so you know where to go if you are interested in any of them. I will monitor the progress of Mecromancer and report again at a later date.

The other zine which was first mooted some time ago is A Voice in the Wilderness from John Lee and Jeremy Pearce (see Amber gamestart for John's address - guess who's too lazy to look it up!). Diplomacy, Hare & Tortoise and Mastermind are on offer here with gamefees of 50p (with 50p deposit) for the first two and 25p for Mastermind. They have made a nice job of their first issue although the article on 'How to play Austria' smacks to me a bit of trying to teach your grandmother how to suck eggs. Should turn out or even turn out to be a good zine - more at a later date.

Here's something a bit different from the London mob (John Miller and Steve Tringham to be precise) - Crosstalk is a Christian fanzine, its purpose is to make committed Christians sit up and think about themselves in the light of what is happening today". I understand that this has arisen from a series of letters and related comments in Mr Clodgrind, Pyhhric Victory and Megalomania and free copies of issue one can be got from Steve Tringham, 25 Auckland Rd., London SE19 2DR. 20p monthly.

Right, I think I've covered most everything of importance so I can get back to my rambling through the comments from last issue. Mick Bullock pulled me up (predictably) on my comment about the League Championship only being on loan to Liverpool, but then he was meant to as the comment was aimed directly at him (and he knew it). Cloughie has been spending money again - he obviously wanted Hartford to make a pair of Scottish midfield players with Semill to sit on either end of his mantelpiece.

The main topic of conversation was the little 'un, of course. John Marsden made some sort of quip about point (Matt Brown...) and I will be dealing with him at some length in knee in groin situation with ongoing pain. Well, what do you think I can call him? With a common-as-muck name like Brown, virtually any name you choose has got some connotation or other attached to it - Charlie Brown, Joe Brown, John Brown etc etc. At least I have picked something which has a reasonable connotation in that Matthew Brown is the name of a local beer! (Even if it is dispensed in Lion pubs). Ken Simpson came up with a nice quotation from Heinlein: "Delusions are often functional. A mother's opinions about her children's beauty, intelligence, goodness et cetera ad nauseam keep her from crowning them at birth." Nice - like it. He also sent me an article from New Scientist about 'Female Chauvinist Birds' which leave their chicks for the male to look after and also practise polyandry (ie one female has several males rather than the other way round which is normally the case - oh hell, I could get jumped on by Women's Lib for that). It has even got a picture of a tinamous.

Cont on back page.

To all Dolchstoss subscribers

To put it mildly, I owe you an apology - 212 apologies, I suppose. Through the kind offices of John ((Miller)), I can at least offer you an explanation.

As many of you will already know, I am being divorced after thirteen years of marriage. I am also involved in a bitter fight for the custody and care of my two children, which I know I have little hope of winning, but which I must see through to the end because I know it is right. As if this were not enough, I am also in love with another woman - I hasten to say that this began after divorce proceedings had started and is quite unconnected with them - and we intend to get married when the divorce becomes a fact. My life therefore alternates between periods of euphoric happiness and others of agonizing uncertainty about the children, and even about such minor matters as where we shall be living. This all produces a sort of emotional overload which is not conducive to the production of a zine, an occupation which I find requires a clear mind and lots of spare time.

There are severe practical problems too. I cannot bear to be in the house at the same time as my soon-to-be-ex-wife, which means that I am able to spend little time here - I even commute 20 miles each way to sleep! During the brief hours I am here, I have to work to earn enough to support my hand-to-mouth existence. In the evenings and at weekends, my girlfriend and I look for escape from our problems at the bridge table, in the pub, or simply in sleep. Perhaps I can best put it like this: I can do things which numb the mind (drinking) or occupy it totally (bridge) or which are essential for survival (work), but that is all I can do.

I have had many offers of help from friends in the hobby. Some of them I have not even answered - I keep meaning to, but other pressures make me forget. I am very grateful to all who volunteered, believe me. I am afraid the problem of finding a temporary home for the Dolchstoss games is beyond me at present; it might perhaps just be possible if someone were to come out to Amersham for a day and sort through the mountains of assorted paper in this room.

There are one or two important things I should say. First of all, if you have sent me money before I stopped accepting subs in March, it is safe, and if you ask for a refund you will get one. Also, I promise that Dolchstoss will be back, when happier times return, but this may not be until the Autumn - it depends on the Law. In case my plans for the future cause anxiety, I should say that my 'fiancee' (if one can have a fiancee and a wife simultaneously) approves of Dolchstoss and frequently nags me to produce another issue. She finds it funny, if you please.

This curious hobby has come to mean a lot to me over the years, and still does, despite appearances. More than anyone else I have reason to be grateful to it, and the ranks of its members include nearly all my most valued friends. So I shall be back - I shan't be able to help myself.

I should be grateful to any GM who would reprint this in his zine for the benefit of my other subbers who don't see this one. It may not be much, but for the moment it's the best I can do.

Richard.

That letter was reprinted from Mr Cladring 27 and was in response to a letter which John Miller wrote to Richard (Sharp) enclosing an SAE - now why didn't I think of doing something intelligent like that? I guess I'll just have to be a brain surgeon after all! Well that letter pretty much tells the story. I've known about this state of affairs for some months now, but wasn't going to say anything until Richard himself came out into the open about the impending divorce. I'm sorry to see the mess which you're in, Richard, and I hope that it all gets sorted out in the very near future.

John is hoping to go round to Richard's sometime to sort out the paperwork and I know that Steve Doubleday is thinking of organising temporary homes for as many of the games as he can. I shall contact those gentlemen if I can and see what is happening. If there is nothing happening, I am prepared to run D36W, NCC 204W, D37I until Richard is back on his feet as they contain subscribers to T. I'm not prepared to run any of the Vain Hats games as I'm not conversant with the rules. Similarly, I cannot do anything with any of the Supplement games as I have never received a copy of the afore-mentioned Supplement. There will (hopefully) be further news elsewhere in the magazine of my progress (if any) in this matter.

The 1979 Zine Poll

| Pos. | Magazine | Total | No. | Average | Pref. Matrix Result | | | | Last Year |
|------|---------------------|-------|--------|---------|---------------------|-------|------|------|-----------|
| | | Votes | Voters | | Won | Drawn | Lost | Pos. | |
| 1. | Greatest Hits | 535.1 | 63 | 8.49 | 29 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 12 |
| 2. | Puppet Theatre News | 398.4 | 48 | 8.30 | 28 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 7 |
| 3. | Chimaera | 537.2 | 69 | 7.79 | 27 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| 4. | Mr Gladgrind | 426.1 | 57 | 7.48 | 24 | 0 | 5 | 6 | 26= |
| 5. | Pigmy | 483.4 | 65 | 7.44 | 23 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 29 |
| 6. | Fall of Eagles | 389.5 | 53 | 7.35 | 20 | 1 | 8 | 10 | 6 |
| 7. | Megalomania | 524.1 | 72 | 7.28 | 25 | 0 | 4 | 4= | - |
| 8. | Filibuster | 331.0 | 46 | 7.20 | 25 | 0 | 4 | 4= | - |
| 9. | THE TINAMOU | 408.4 | 58 | 7.04 | 20 | 2 | 7 | 8 | 10 |
| 10. | Gallimaufry | 383.6 | 55 | 6.97 | 20 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 9 |
| 11. | Griffin | 280.2 | 42 | 6.67 | 11 | 4 | 14 | 17= | - |
| 12. | Spirit of the Age | 320.0 | 49 | 6.53 | 17 | 1 | 11 | 12 | - |
| 13. | Leeming Express | 387.5 | 60 | 6.46 | 16 | 4 | 9 | 11 | 5 |
| 14. | Snorwood Gazette | 170.6 | 28 | 6.09 | 9 | 2 | 18 | 21 | - |
| 15. | Howay the Lads | 340.4 | 57 | 5.97 | 12 | 1 | 16 | 19 | 16 |
| 16. | Bron Yr Aur | 164.7 | 28 | 5.88 | 15 | 0 | 14 | 13 | 30 |
| 17. | Dolchstoss | 455.2 | 78 | 5.84 | 14 | 0 | 15 | 15 | 1 |
| 18. | Courier | 58.2 | 10 | 5.82 | 6 | 5 | 18 | 22 | 13 |
| 19. | R. Rivals Recorder | 171.3 | 30 | 5.71 | 4 | 2 | 23 | 25 | 22 |
| 20. | Whiskey Mac | 260.9 | 46 | 5.67 | 12 | 2 | 15 | 17= | - |
| 21. | An Thaidhleoir | 107.7 | 19 | 5.67 | 13 | 1 | 15 | 16 | - |
| 22. | Lyrthic Victory | 199.0 | 38 | 5.24 | 10 | 0 | 19 | 20 | - |
| 23. | Ethil the Frog | 261.4 | 50 | 5.23 | 14 | 1 | 14 | 14 | 8 |
| 24. | Albatross | 60.8 | 12 | 5.07 | 3 | 1 | 25 | 28 | 34 |
| 25. | AZOTT | 98.5 | 22 | 4.10 | 7 | 2 | 20 | 23 | - |
| 26. | Khubovia | 105.3 | 26 | 4.05 | 6 | 1 | 22 | 24 | 20 |
| 27. | Enigma | 119.5 | 31 | 3.85 | 1 | 1 | 24 | 26 | 17 |
| 28. | Gummi | 63.4 | 20 | 3.17 | 3 | 1 | 25 | 27 | 24 |
| 29. | Jigsaw | 40.7 | 16 | 2.54 | 1 | 0 | 28 | 29 | 4 |
| 30. | Shenandoah Services | 12.0 | 5 | 2.40 | 0 | 0 | 29 | 30 | 32 |

Explanation: The first five columns record the position (pos.) of the magazine as a function of the average of the total number of votes cast i.e. total votes divided by the number of voters. The next four columns relate to the position of each magazine on a preference matrix: this looks at the number of times each magazine is voted below, equal to or above another magazine. If a magazine is preferred to another more times than the second magazine is preferred to it, it registers a 'win' and the rest follow accordingly. That's pretty badly explained, so you are invited to get a copy of the issue of New Statsman carrying the results from Mick Bullock, 14 Nursery Ave., Halifax. West Yorkshire HX3 5SZ. You'll also get another half-dozen ways of analysing the results! The last column, by the way, is the position on average vote last year.

Comments - well, I'm fairly happy with the position of The Tinamou. I don't necessarily believe that all of the zines above us are better for playing Diplomacy in, just as I don't accept that those below are inferior. It is impossible to separate the Diplomacy from the rest of the content of the zine - I refuse to believe, for instance, that the vote for Enigma is purely based on its prowess as a Diplomacy zine. I'm sure that it is time that we accepted this and acknowledged that we have to vote for a zine on the basis of its provision for games-playing as a whole, rather than Diplomacy in particular.

That GH won is no great surprise - I voted it first myself - but the second position accorded to young Mearns will come to many as a shock. Having received PTN for a couple of years, I can understand the voting. Pete does provide a good service in terms of the games and he has built up a loyal following who have voted him this high. Well done to both votes. Congratulations also to John Miller and Steve Agar, who have done well in the last year. Nice also to see Chimaera back near the top (back?? near the top??) again. Sad to see Gallimaufry and LE so low - they were placed much higher by me (G I put joint first!). The distribution of the votes cast looks interesting. Most of ours were 7.0-8.9, but we did get one 10 (thank-you, whoever it was) and three marks below 4. Since E got more votes than people who receive it who voted, I expect that the low votes came from that direction, though I would be interested to hear why anyone voted us that low.

En Garde - August 1601

TO ALL PLAYERS: The next deadline is July 28th. Unfortunately, the following deadline will be August 25th - which science-fiction fans amongst you will know is the weekend of SEACON in Brighton. Since I'm going, and I am reluctant to have a double deadline, the normal three-week deadline will be reduced to two weeks: orders to me by August 10th. Since this is so short, I will send players advance copies of the results of the previous month, if you ask me to do so in your next set of orders. These should reach you about a week before the Tinsieu would do so, giving you the usual three weeks grace. Luckily, the following deadline will be September 22nd, which interferes with neither GeordieCon nor OGSCon - so see you there! Dave (Hex(Nearly)).

At the Front

A non-descript month - nothing really happened at Casablanca, bar the slaughtering of a few innocent peasants - though one or two atrocities are rumoured to have been committed. Catstrangler again, I suppose.....

Major Pierre Bayard (RM): Investigated a few atrocities himself - his writing of them for a Parisian tabloid (le Soleil!) earned him a certain notoriety! (MID(2)).

Captain Randolph Catstrangler (RM): It is rumoured that the King is trying to have the Colonel of the Marines replaced on the grounds of senility - after all, would any sane man promote Catstrangler to Major and give him 1800 crowns!!!

Lt. Colonel Seiko Quartz (311): After a bit of wirepulling and bootlicking in the War Office, Seiko got himself promoted to Colonel. It also kept him out of the way of stray bullets....

Captain Redfin (RM): Slumbering soundly, Redfin was transferred to a Frontier Regiment. That didn't wake him up - nor, I suppose, will the news that he narrowly escaped the cannon ball which killed his superior and led to his promotion to Major, nor the addition of 1000cr to his account through sales of scrap metal....Are you there, Graham?

Subaltern Guillaume d'Enfant (RM): Learnt the hard way that carrying a tin of bootpolish is no protection against muskets. RIP.

Subaltern Breton de Volution (RM): Held a whip-round for Guillaume's funeral, then absconded with 900cr when promoted to Captain in a different regiment. Inquiries are being made.....

Major Oisin de Paddy (13th(Att)): Oisin is still fighting well, picking up 700cr from spectators as he demonstrated the use of the shillelagh. As well as a paragraph in the weekly report (MID(2)).

Major Giscard d'Stain (GMB(Att)): Still smarting over his rejected application to the Royal Society, Giscard went all-out to pick up cash to lube his way in! So successfully that he gained 2000cr!

Captain Sigismund de Trave (RMH): Having learned one or two tricks in his role as adjutant, Sigismund had no difficulty in acquiring 1500cr and a promotion to Major. Of course, the General is now looking for a new aide....

Captain Frank de Stamp (SENR): By closely copying Sigismund's orders, Frank, too, was promoted to Major - though he didn't manage to pick up any cash.

Major Mustafa Krappe (OOC(Att)): Picked up 900cr in various ways into which you would be well advised not to enquire - especially as they involved certain Sicilian gentlemen.

Major Pablo de Casserole (DG(Att)): His sterling qualities finally being recognised, Pablo was promoted to Lt. Colonel in his Frontier Regiment, mentioned in Dispatches (5) and given a bonus of 900cr. All of which raised his suspicions that he was being groomed to deal with the Catstrangler problem!

Prison Camp: Stanford Rafflesworth and Bottler le Boethaye are said to be making great advances in crochet work, and are thinking of trying their hands at embroidery. Our source of news is Huffus la Custard, who tunnelled his way to freedom this month.

CITY NEWS

Week One: Of the five members of Society in town, Rice Hansperver-Kassel was in Hunters with Angus de Mars, attending a party thrown by Patrick de Poie Gras. Ursula was absent - Angus explained that she'd left for the weekend to visit her sick aunt (and it didn't sound as if he believed it either!). Father Bloopan was visiting Andre to make sure she hadn't forgotten him, while Eutre des Champs was trying to get Agatha to pronounce his name properly.

Week Two: Agatha got it right! And Zutre acquired a friend! Meanwhile, the party in Hunters had (as usual) degenerated into a drunken brawl, with the three participants each trying to outdrink the other two. Luther Bloopan was doing the same thing in Blue Cables.

Week Three: Xngus de Mars and Patrick de Foie Gras staggered away from Hunters in the general direction of the practise fields, each carrying his rapier. There they met Luther Bloopan carrying his cutlass, and Zutre des Champs with his two-handed sword. Nice Ramsperger-Kassel, meanwhile, was buying a majority in the Fighting 13th.

Week Four: Fireworks! Zutre des Champs, visiting Agatha, came across Nice Ramsperger-Kassel sitting on her doorstep. He immediately challenged the fellow to a duel. Xngus de Mars continued his rapier practise; Luther Bloopan moved into Blue Cables to continue drinking, while Patrick de Foie Gras left for the Front with his squadron in search of a legendary hangover cure.

TOP OF THE FOLDS

| Name | Player | Old New | | Cash | Regt | Rank | Ms | Cl | EC | HA |
|---------------------------|----------------|---------|----|------|------|--------|----|----|-----|----|
| | | SL | SL | | | | | | | |
| Sir Pablo de Casserole MM | Rob Chapman | 13 | 13 | 964 | DC | M(2) | 20 | 1 | (3) | 4 |
| Sir Patrick de Foie Gras | Ian Doherty | 11 | 12 | 458 | RFG | M(2) | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| Sir Mustapha Krappe SF | Brian Douglas | 10 | 10 | 718 | QOC | M(2) | 18 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| Sir Sigismund de Erve | Derek Wilson | 10 | 10 | 1848 | ALC | C(f) | 13 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| Rodfin | Graham Box | 8 | 8 | 2881 | RM | C(d) | 6 | 6 | 4 | 3 |
| Luther Bloopan FRS | Deryck Povey | 8 | 8 | 323 | ALC | M(2) | 19 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| Tuffus la Custard | George North | 7 | 7 | 901 | RM | LCol | 9 | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| Seiko Quartz | Wick Clennett | 6 | 6 | 319 | RM | Col | 3 | - | (2) | 3 |
| Giscard d'Stain | Ian Quilty | 6 | 6 | 4003 | GDMD | M(2) | - | - | 2 | 6 |
| Xngus de Mars FRS | John Marsden | 5 | 6 | 172 | 13th | LCol | 15 | 6 | 3 | 4 |
| Nice Ramsperger-Kassel | Jeremy Tullett | 4 | 5 | 36* | 13th | M(2) | - | 6 | 3 | 3 |
| Breton de Volution | Tim Sharrock | 4 | 4 | 1128 | CPC | Sub | - | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| Randolph Catstrangler | Bob Brown | 4 | 4 | 3948 | RM | M(2) | - | - | 4 | 6 |
| Pierre Bayard | Tom Dutcher | 4 | 4 | 1039 | RM | BtM(1) | - | 6 | 2 | 3 |
| Oisín de Paddy | Der Garvey | 4 | 4 | 2079 | 13th | M(1) | - | 6 | 3 | 1 |
| Frank de Stamp FRS | Robin Hood | 3 | 3 | 1080 | CPC | Pte | - | 6 | 3 | 2 |
| Zutre des Champs SF | Ted Lendon | 2 | 3 | 2061 | - | - | 10 | - | 4 | 3 |
| Stanford Rafflesworth MM | Philip Jones | 2 | 2 | 91 | PM | BtC(f) | - | - | 2 | 3 |
| Bettler le Bootloze | Simon Burke | 1 | 1 | 485 | PM | BtSub | - | - | 2 | 4 |

FRS = Fellow of the Royal Society, SL = Social Level, Regt = Regiment, Ranks:- LCol = Lieutenant-Colonel, M = Major, C = Captain, Sub = Subaltern, Pte = Private (NB the nos. refer to their rank, e.g. M(2) commands C(e) and C(f); underlines means that officer commands the regiment), Ms = Mistress, Cl = Club, EC = Endurance Class: 1 = 01-50, 2 = 51-100, 3 = 101-150, 4 = 151-200 (NB brackets as (2) give the class at month's end due to the character still recovering), asterisks after cash indicate that character has been advanced his next month's allowance.

Femmes Fatales

| No. | Name | SL | No. | Name | SL |
|-----|-------------------|-----|-----|---------------------|-----|
| 1. | Arwen Evenstar | 13 | 11. | Alison Wonderland | 13I |
| 2. | Joni Michelin | 15B | 12. | Linda McCartwheel | 15B |
| 3. | Jane Fondue | 11B | 13. | Anne McCafe | 14 |
| 4. | Ali McGravy | 8WI | 14. | Janet Morris-Minor | 13B |
| 5. | Barbara Castillo | 14 | 15. | Ursula le Gannet | 8I |
| 6. | Bella Donna | 9W | 16. | Tanith Leaf | 11 |
| 7. | Sally Goldfield | 8I | 17. | Delilah Bak | 12I |
| 8. | Sarah Jane Smythe | 4I | 18. | Cilla Blakett-Dirac | 11B |
| 9. | Marjory Troops | 9WI | 19. | Andre Northwind | 9WB |
| 10. | Agatha Crispie | 5WB | 20. | Victoria Fosdyke | 16I |

W = Wealth, B = Beauty, I = Influence; underlines mean that mistress is taken.

Investments: Commerce broke even this month - you can't win them all, Xngus....

royal Society. After the ballot over the membership of Giscard d'Stain was concluded, there were three votes against and one abstention. Further attempts are invited; don't forget, "Aye" votes cost 100cr each from the King and are guaranteed -- you may get them cheaper from other players, but it is, after all, an anonymous voting system - so can you trust them?

Shylock. Owed at the beginning of next month: Randolph Catstrangler (220), Patrick de Epic Gras (550), Stanford Rafflesworth (110), Proton de Volution (330).
Owed at the beginning of October: Frank de Stamp (330).

Episodes: Ursula disappeared quietly for a weekend. Tella and Marjory both turned down offers.

Death & Dreck: Zutro des Champs challenges Nico Hamsperger-Kassel to a duel, having come across him on Agatha's doorstep.

THE GREAT ESCAPE

Tuffus la Custard was a model prisoner and quite content to joke with the guards and see out the war in relative comfort. Unfortunately this life of luxury was short-lived because his chihuahua bit the visiting priest and for that Tuffus was slung into solitary confinement.

The cell was damp and he had only one plank for a bed; no food or water.

Tuffus lay down on the bunk and planned his escape. He ate the dates off the wall and jumped up and down and drank from the springs.

Jumping up and down was not easy since the roof of the cell was very low indeed and Tuffus hit his head many times until he felt quite sore.

Taking the saw he then proceeded to cut the plank in half. Then he put the two halves together again and the two halves made a whole.

Tuffus clambered through the hole and made his way to the nearest road. Here Tuffus bellowed at the top of his voice until he got hoarse.

Jumping on the horse, Tuffus was about to ride off when one of the guards came running. The guard had heard Tuffus yelling and grabbed Tuffus by the leg.

Then the guard started to pull Tuffus' leg the same as I am pulling yours. Tuffus fell from the horse and found himself back in the cell where he had slipped off the plank and lay, wide awake now, in the damp.

Tuffus then decided to dig a tunnel. It would take a month but Tuffus would not part with his gold nor loan his mistress to the Guard Commander.

Quartz to Champes, Rafflesworth & Bootboys.

On reaching the required Social Level I will allow you to buy your way up to higher positions.

Major Luther Bloopan hereby puts forward a motion that the Royal Society should expel from its ranks the so-called gentleman Private Frank de Stamp for his continual and unseemly outrageous insults. Major Bloopan feels these are not the actions of a man who warrants the social advantages of the Society. However, if Private Stamp would formally apologise then Major Bloopan feels sure that a good bevvy down at the club would settle everything.

I'm Tuffus la Custard,
At fighting I'm mustard,
I fight for the good of Pancee:
I'm a son-of-a-gun,
I fight anyone,
No matter how big she may be.

Catstrangler to Whom it may concern

Any parties going lads? Liven up your dreary drinking with the presence of the controversial Catstrangler and earn yourself some social points at the same time. Just because DR(N) doesn't like me doesn't mean that everyone else has to dislike me too. I'm really very nice - nobody loves me.... (Exit stage left, sucking thumb).

Wozand, Autumn 1904 (1978 GU) GM: Bob Brown

Austria: A(Ser), A(Bud) stand unordered
(Anarchy)

France: A(Wal)-Lon, F(ENG)-MAO, A(Pre)-Par, F(Har) & F(Gas) S F(MAO)-Spa sc,
(Ian McIntyre) A(Spa)-Por

Germany: A(Edi) St, F(NTH) S F(Swe)-Nor, A(Dur) S FRENCH F(Mar), A(Vie) S A(Mun)-
(Vic Smith) Boh, F(BAL)-Swe, A(Liv) S RUSSIAN A(War)-Mos

Italy: F(GOL) S A(Lie)-Mar, F(WMS)-Spa sc, F(TYR)-WMS, A(Ven)-Tri, A(Tri)-Bud
(Ian Doherty)

Russia: NMR! A(Nor), A(Boh), F(COE), A(War), A(Ukr), F(Sev), F(Rum) stand
(John Miller) unordered

Turkey: A(Arm), F(BLA), F(Con), A(Tul) stand unordered
(Anarchy)

Hosties. Russian A(Nor) & A(Boh) both chopped.

Winter 1904

Austria: Bud, Ser.

France: Bre, Mar, Par, Por, Lon, Spa, Lpl

Germany: Ber, Kie, Mun, Den, Hol, Bel, Edi, Swe + Nor, Vie

Italy: Nap, Rom, Ven, Gre, Tun, Tri

Russia: Mos, Sev, StP, War, ~~Wol~~, Rum, ~~Wol~~

Turkey: Ank, Con, Smy, Tul

no change for 2

no change for 7

builds A(Mun), A(Ber) for 10

no change for 6

no change for 5

no change for 4

ooo000ooo

Verity, Autumn 1905 (1978 GJ) GM: Bob Brown

Austria: A(Ber) S ENGLISH F(Hol)-Kie, A(Tri)-Bud, F(Nap) S FRENCH F(TYR)-Rom,
(Tim Sharrock) A(Bel)-Ser, A(Tul) St unordered

England: F(Edi)-NWG, F(Hol)-Kie, A(Bel) S F(NTH)-Hol
(Chris Bishop)

France: NMR! F(MAO), A(Par), A(Tur), A(Vie), F(TYR), F(ION) stand unordered
(Gary Murkin)

Germany: A(Den)-Kie, A(Kie)-Mun, A(Boh)-Vie, A(Tyr) S A(Vie)-Tri
(John Foulger)

Italy: A(Tus)-Ven, A(Ser) S F(Gre)-Bul sc, A(Arm) S F(Con)-Ank
(John Marsden)

Russia: A(Rum) S F(BLA)-Bul sc, A(War)-Sil, F(SKL) S A(Swe)-Den, F(Nor)-Cly
(Jeremy Tullett) F(NWG)-MAO

Turkey: A(Ank) S F(Smy)-Con
(Chikako Butcher)

Hosties. German A(Den) annihilated. Turkish A(Ank) chopped, NRO.

Winter 1905

Austria: Bud, ~~Wol~~, ~~Wol~~, Bul + Nap, Ber

England: Edi, Lon, Lpl, Bel + Hol, Kie

France: Bre, Mar, Par, Por, Spa, Tun

Germany: ~~Wol~~, ~~Wol~~, Mun, ~~Wol~~, ~~Wol~~ + Vie, Tri

Italy: ~~Wol~~, Rom, Ven, ~~Wol~~, Gre, ~~Wol~~ + Ank, Ser

Russia: Mos, Sev, StP, War, Swe, Nor, Rum + Den

Turkey: ~~Wol~~, Smy + Con

no change for 4

builds F(Edi), F(Lon) for 6

no change for 6

GM removes A(Tyr) for 3

no change for 5

builds A(Sev) for 8

builds F(Smy) for 2

Austria - Italy & Germany: Unless we stop our little quarrel and unite we will be squashed between the super-powers - please write.

Italy - World. Ice cream for sale. Turkish ices a speciality.

Press cont overpage.

Verity Press cont

St Petersburg. What a colourful game this is! Green on yellow, black on brown, red on black, and even mauve on orange! Isn't that pretty?

GERMANY - AUSTRIA:- Sorry old chap, but you did provoke me you know.

Germany - Austria:- Stuff your Anschluss, and stuff you! (No offence)

"Jeremy"-Jeremy:- We Jeremy's have all the luck, don't we love.

France - Russia:- We can't go on meeting like this, countries will start getting suspicious.

GERMANY: Please note my COA.

L. de V. - The "Jeremy" Mob. 20 thousand pounds was it, that you were trying to explain away? I'm not surprised you were refused a commission in our Crown Prince Guirassiers. Just been reading about your goings on in the new book on Polar Exploration - 'Scott of the Antarctic'.

ooo000ooo

NGC 215, Autumn 1911

GM: Ron Fisher

England: A(Swe) S A(Den) St, F(PAL)-Kie, A(Fru)-Ber, F(WTH)-Nor, F(Edi)-WTH,
(Hugh Baldwin) A(Cly)-Edi, F(IRM)-MAO

France: F(ENG) S F(MAO)-IRI, F(Lon) S F(Del)-WTH, A(Kie)-Hol, A(Pan) S A(Der)-
(George Kingston) Kie, F(SKA)-Den, A(Dur) S A(Pan), A(Ven) S A(Tyr)-Tri, F(Apu) S ITALIAN
F(ION)

Italy: F(ADR)-Alb, F(Nap) S F(ION) St
(Ian McIntyre)

Turkey: A(Vie) S A(Tri)-Tyr, A(Boh)-Mun, F(Alb)-Tri, A(Dud) S F(Alb)-Tri,
(Ant Jones) F(Con)-Smy, F(Gre) & F(EMS) S F(AEG)-ION, A(Sil) S ENGLISH A(Uru)-Ber

Retreats: French A(Der) annihilated. English F(IRM)-Val.

GM: Draw proposal was defeated.

Winter 1911

England: Edi, Lpl, Nor, Swe, StP, Mos, War, Den + Ber

France: Gre, Mar, Ber, Nor, Spa, Del, Hol, Ven, Kie, Lon, ~~WTH~~, Mun

Italy: Rom, Nap, Tun, ~~WTH~~

Turkey: Ank, Con, Smy, Bul, Gre, Ber, Dud, Sev, Rum, Vie + Tri

builds F(Lpl) for 9
no change for 11
no change for 3
builds A(Con) for 11

ooo000ooo

We Apologise for the Delay, but.....

NG 86 C - Round 2

FHT (Harry Turner, red). 2a) (G62)-G61-F60. 2b) (F60)-D59-D58; (J63)-J61. 2c) (D58)-D57;
(J61)-J59. 21 + 1 (from DYTE) = 22.

DITTO (Deryck Covey, blue). 2a) (N22)-N21-Denver. 2b) (Denver)-A60-A59. 2c) (A59)-A58-
A57-N16. 20 + 5 + 1 (from FHT) = 26.

Edi (Dave Watts, orange). 2a) (C71)-F71-Kansas City. 2b) (Kansas City)-B75-St Louis;
(J75)-A76. 2c) (Kansas City)-Oklahoma City. 29 + 15 - 1 (to DITTO) = 43.

DYEM (Brian Williams, green). 2a) (E64)-E62. 2b) (E62)-E61-I59. 2c) (I59)-J58-Billings-
J55; (H76)-Milwaukee. 25 + 5 - 1 (to FHT) = 29.

JFR (Jonathan Palfrey, black). 2a) (D22)-D21-C21. 2b) (C21)-C17-D16 (via El Paso).
2c) (B16)-D15-D14-D11. 20 + 5 = 25.

Irelech: RRR built H73-Minn St P last time not H72.

Round 3 Throws: 5, 2, 4

Green, green my map is green. Green is my map and so is Brian.

AT66J and BT81K are both in obedience due to the slowness of the post to/from Japan.

Pickle, Autumn 1905 (1978 GB)

GM: Bob Brown

Austria: A(Tri), A(Ser) stand unordered
(Anarchy)

England: F(NTH) S F(ENG)-Bel, F(SKA) & F(Den) S A(Nor)-Swe, F(BLR) S A(StP)
(Frank Dashwood) which hastily puts back original signs ((unnecessarily))

France: F(MAO) S F(Spa sc)-WMS, A(Mar) S A(Gas)-Spa, A(Sur)-Tuh
(Martin Styler)

Germany: A(Tuh)-Bel, F(Bel)-Hol, A(Ber)-Mun, A(Sil)-Mun
(John Foulger)

Italy: A(Tyr) S A(Ven)-Tri, F(GOL) MS F(WMS)
(Don Brown)

Russia: F(Swe)-DAL, F(GB) S A(Mos)-StP, A(Liv)-War, A(Gal)-Vie, F(Sev) St,
(Dave Sharrocks) A(Run)-Scr

Turkey: A(Bul)-Gre, F(Gre)-ION, F(LEG)-Bul sc, A(Arm)-Sev
(Chris Bishop)

Nasties. Austrian A(Tri) chopped.

Winter 1905

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| <u>Austria</u> : Tri , Scr , Ser | no change for 1 |
| <u>England</u> : Edi, Lon, Lpl, Bel, Nor, Den, StP + Swe | builds A(Lon) for 6 |
| <u>France</u> : Bre, Mar, Par, Nor, Spa | no change for 5 |
| <u>Germany</u> : Ber, Kie, Mun, Hol | no change for 4 |
| <u>Italy</u> : Nap, Rom, Ven, Tur + Tri | builds A(Ven) for 5 |
| <u>Russia</u> : Mos, Sev, War, Rum, Vie , Bud | removes F(DAL) for 6 |
| <u>Turkey</u> : Ank, Con, Smy, Bul + Gre | builds A(Con) for 5 |

~~King~~ ~~Er~~. Er, King Frank the Arborescent and Her Majesty were seated at the breakfast table. The elegant walnut sideboards (all five) groaned ((as did the readers)) under the weight of silver dishes containing: grilled bacon, kippers, scrambled egg, tomatoes, finnan haddock, cornish pasty, poached eggs, oysters, venison patties, hot-cakes, fishcakes, bombay duck, salami, Arbroath smokies, haggis, boiled eggs, lamb chops, mushrooms, ulster fry, black pudding, curry, sardines, Melton Mowbray pie, oeufs-en-cocotte, hominy grits, anchovies, fried eggs, waffles, garlic sausage, caviare, bratwurst, potted shrimps, fried bread, smorgasbord, escallopes, fish fingers, Mr. Garrard's midnight snack, steaks, pig's trotters, shish-kebab, waffles, sausages (4 kinds), salads (5 kinds), hams (3 kinds), omelettes (8 kinds), frankfurters (12 kinds) and other simple fare.

But His Refulgence was slimming. His troughs had only been refilled three times and now the Canvey Island Cineraria, slumped exhaustedly over the shafts of her wheelbarrow, watching as he Lord sat immersed in the morning paper, oblivious to the swooshing of the stirrup-pump as the Runnymede Moss Rose pumped in the next course.

"Nothing in this rag worth reading," grunted (or rather disgruntled) His Majesty. "The Times has gone down the drain since the Unions rejected automation and the new robot typesetters. Not a word lately from the correspondents in Berlin, Constantinople, Moscow, Paris or Rome - idle bastards the lot of 'em," he muttered.

"What is there? Low Countries, afforestation schemes attacked by a plague of Krauts. Ashe out of the men's singles. Forest win European Cup of course. Some idiot has been wasting my money on expensive new street-signs in St.P. which have all got to come down again because the inhabitants don't speak English. Order being restored to Greece and Trieste, lately in the hands of anarchists. What is this pap you are feeding me," he roared suddenly.

Moss Rose blanched. "Sire, you did express a wish to try 'Gerber's' for a change," she whispered.

"Idiot girl, I said Gerbils, not Gerber's."

"Are we playing Gerber? Four diamonds then," from the other end of the table Her Britannic Majesty's voice filtered round the edge of 'The Tree-Surgeon's Journal', followed by an elegant hand holding out a chaste porcelain vessel.

"More coffee, please."

"Certainly, Ma'am." The South West sweet William nipped up to refill the whiskey.
"Ma'am, I think is called for." The Royal Couple were obviously getting out of their
depth in this contract, he reckoned:

ANNOUNCEMENT:- Please note my COA all you would-be letter writers, not counting you of course,
Martin.

ooo000ooo

Autumn 1906 (1978 FU)

GM: Bob Brown

Austria: F(TYR)-COL, F(ION)-AFC, F(ADR)-Alb, A(Ven)-Pic, A(Tri) S A(Gre)-Ser,
(Chris Bishop) A(Vie) S A(Duc)-Gal
France: F(WMS), A(Mar), A(Par), F(Dre), F(ENG) stand unordered
(Anarchy)
Germany: F(Wol) S RUSSIAN F(NTM)-ENG, A(Gas)-Spa, A(Dur)-Gas, A(Pic) unordered,
(Stewart Wright) A(Ruh)-Dur, A(Kie)-Mun, F(Den) St
Russia: A(Edi)-Lpl, F(NTM)-Lon, F(MVG)-Edi, F(Nor)-Swe, A(Cal) S A(Eoh)-Vic,
(John Robson) A(Rum)-Sev
Turkey: F(ABG)-Gre, A(Ser) S RUSSIAN A(Rum)-Bud, A(Dul) S A(Ser), A(Con) &
(Peter McDonald) F(BLA) S A(Bul)

Winter 1906

Austria: Bud, Tri, Vie, Gre, Nap, Ven, Tun, Rom
France: Bre, Mar, Par, For, ~~///~~, ~~///~~, ~~///~~
Germany: Ber, Kie, Mun, Den, Hol, Bel, ~~///~~ + Spa
Russia: Mos, StP, War, Nor, Swe, Sev, Rum + Lpl, Edi, Lon builds F(StPsc), A(War), A(Mos) for 10
Turkey: Ank, Con, Smy, Ser, Bul
no change for 8
GM removes F(ENG) for 4
no change for 7
no change for 5

ooo000ooo

Autumn 1906 (1978 DY)

GM: Bob Brown

Austria: A(Tri), A(Vie) stand unordered
(Anarchy)
England: F(NTM) stands unordered
(Anarchy)
France: A(Yor)-Lpl, F(ENG) S A(Bel) St, F(COL) S F(MAO)-WMS, A(Par) St, A(Pic) St,
(John James) F(Ron) St
Germany: F(Wol) & A(Ruh) S A(Dur)-Bel, F(MVG)-Edi, A(Sil) S A(Mun)-Eoh, A(War) S
(Harry Turner) RUSSIAN A(Ukr), A(Fin)-StP
Italy: A(Ven) stands unordered
(Anarchy)
Russia: A(Ukr), A(Mos) stand unordered
(Anarchy)
Turkey: F(BLA) S A(Sev) S A(Rum)-Ukr, A(Bud) S A(Cal)-Vie, A(Bul)-Ser, A(Apu) S
(Chris Bishop) F(Nap)-Rom, F(TYR)-Tun, F(ION)-ADR

Castles. Austrian A(Vie) chopped. French F(Rom)-Tus, A(Bel) chopped, NRO.

Winter 1906

Austria: Tri, ~~///~~
England: ~~///~~, ~~///~~
France: Dre, Mar, Par, Spa, For, ~~///~~, Lon, Rom + Lpl
Germany: Ber, Kie, Mun, Hol, Bel, Den, Nor, Swe, War + Edi, StP builds A(Mun), F(Kie), A(Ber) for 11
Italy: Ven
Russia: Mos, ~~///~~
Turkey: Ank, Con, Smy, Bul, Rum, Sev, Gre, Ser, Bud, Nap + Vie, Tun, Rom
no change for 1
GM removes F(NTM) for 0
no change for 7
no change for 1
GM removes A(Ukr) for 1
builds A(Con), A(Ank), F(Smy) for 13

Odium, Spring 1909 (1977 JX)

GM: Bob Brown

France: F(BAL)-Swe, F(WTH)-Edi, F(ENG)-Wal, A(Tar)-Pic, A(Bur)-Bel, F(GOL)-Tus,
(Coff Chase) A(Pic) S ITALIAN F(Ven), F(Tun) S F(TYR) S ITALIAN F(Nap)

Germany: F(Edi)-Cly, A(Mun) S A(Hol)-Kie
(Martin Feather)

Italy: F(Rom) HS F(Nap), F(Ven)-ADR, A(Sev) stands & yawns
(John Marsden)

Russia: A(Nor)-Swe, A(Der)-Kie, F(Kie)-Den, A(Sil)-Boh, A(War)-Gal, A(Mos)-Ukr,
(Stephen Agar) A(Liv)-Mos, F(Stinc)-Nor

Turkey: A(Tyr) S A(Boh)-Mun, A(Lud)-Vic, A(Ser)-Tri, A(Apu)-Ven, F(ION)-TYH,
(Ian Doherty) F(Gre) & F(AEG) S F(EMS)-ION, F(DLA) S ITALIAN A(Sev)

Hasties. German A(Mun) chopped, no possible retreat ordered.

Prelech. Draw proposal defeated, but it has been repropoed (1st= F/R/T, 4th I, 5th G) and the 5-way draw has also been put forward. Votes next time please. Failure to vote counts for the proposals.

Deadly Killer Limerick

There once was a human called Frank,
Whose mind was incredibly blank,
He subscribed to Dip. Zines,
Sketched Mamib. Aubergines,
Then into obscurity sank. (If only it were true)

Silly Ditty No. 2

Aubergines are ripening at the zoo,
Or burgeoning, 'tis said.
And Mat Brown's in fine feather too
If his King Mouth is fed.
But Dashwood's just a rotten tree,
As would be known as 'punk'.
So take your silly graffiti
And carve them on his trunk!

Secrets of A.I. Updated.

1. Please insert the following corrections to your copy:-

For bits - read bits.

For Lindsay - read lindsay, throughout.

2. Anti-vibration mountings.

A couple of thick short planks will effectively screen out all low-frequency vibrations. Various timbers have been tested, from aspen - least suitable, to ash - most inflexible. Irish Intelligence are still working on the almost insuperable problem of restoring agar-agar jelly to a rational state.

France - European Alliance: Viva la Guillotine; ouvrez la porte; tous la monde - welcome. Tetes pour sale, topped Aubergines a speciality.

Le Roi - The Sultan: I am ready. Which fleet will you let me sail into Constantinople?

Italy - Turkey: If you double-cross me I'll never forgive you.

Italy - France: If you double-cross me I'll never forgive you.

France - Russia: After all the help I've given you, this is how you thank me!

The Supreme Aubergine is a basic programming error!

Italy(Gvnt): Please note Change of Address under 'Ulysses'. ((Also given in the COA section elsewhere))

Coradharas, Autumn 1908 (1978 DK)

GM: Bob Brown

England: F(MAO)-Bre, F(IRI)-ENG, F(ENG)-NTH, A(Yor) St, F(SKA)-Swe, F(Swc)-DAL
(Alan Lennox)

France: A(Den) St, A(Kie) S A(Den), A(Sil) S A(Pru)-War, F(Del)-ENG, A(Pic) S
(Larry Edgar) F(Fre) S F(Del)-ENG, A(Bur)-Ruh, F(Spa sc) S F(Por)-MAO, F(Tun)-ION

Italy: A(Mun) St, A(Tri) & A(Gal) S A(Vic)-Bud, A(Alb)-Ser
(Rob Johnsey)

Russia: A (Nor)--Fin, A (War)--Gal, A (Sev)--Ukr, A (Bud) S A (Ser)--Tri, A (Rum) S A (Bud),
(Phil Bass) A (Gre)--Ser, F (ABC)--ION, A (Con)--Bul, F (SLA)--Con

Nasties. English F(MAO)-MAO. Russian A(War)-Liv.

Winter 1908

| | | |
|--|---------------|--------|
| England: Len, Lpl, Edi, Nor, Mos, Swe | no change | for 6 |
| France: Par, Mar, Bre, Spa, For, Bel, Wyl , Der, Den, Kie, Hol, Tun + War | builds F(Mar) | for 12 |
| Italy: Rom, Nap, Ven, Tri, Vie + Mun | builds F(Nap) | for 6 |
| Russia: Wyl , Sev, Tam, Dud, Ank, Ser, Bul, Con, Gre, StP, Smy | no change | for 10 |

England - Russia: What an ally! Sometimes I think I'd be better off with Bob Johnson ~~and~~
~~the whole treatment for it.~~

England - France: Why not settle for a draw?

○○○000○○○

Kyto, Autumn 1911 (1977 DY)

GM: Bob Brown

France: A(Cly) St,A(Lpl)-Wal,A(Bol)-Bel,F(Spa sc) S F(MLO)-Per,F(MSS)-TYR,
(Stephen Andrews) A(Lur)-Ruh,A(Rom)-Nap,A(Ven) S A(Tri),A(Tri) MS A(Vic)

Germany: A(Inf) A(Inf)-Inf, A(Inf) S A(Inf) St, A(Inf) St, A(Inf) S A(Inf)-Inf
(Graham Box)

Russia: E(Nor) St
(Anarchy)

Turkey: F(MAO)-MWC, F(For)-MAO, F(Tun) St, F(ION)-Nap, F(AEG)-Gre, F(Smy)-AEG,
(Mike Johnson) F(BLA) S A (Bul)-Rum, A(Sev) S A (Bul)-Rum, A(Dud) MS A(Scr)

Nesties. Turkish F(For) annihilated.

Relech. The draw proposal was defeated.

Winter 1911

Austria: ~~WV~~ no change for 0
France: Mar, Par, Tol, Spa, Wol, Lon, Mdi, Bre, Vie, Ven, Lpl + Tri, Rom, Por
builds A(Par), A(Mar), F(Bre) for 14
Germany: Ber, Don, Kie, Swe, StP, War, Mos, Mun
builds P(Kie) for 8
Russia: Nor no change for 1
Turkey: Ank, Con, Smy, Bul, Gre, Nap, ~~Rom~~, Tun, Ser, Bud, Rum, Sev, ~~Ist~~
builds F(Smy) for 11

○○○○○○○○

Amber Gamestart

Austria: Norman Williams, 135 St Albans Rd., Barnet. Herts EN5 4LD.

England: John Lee, "Ashlee", 10 Chapel Close, Milton, Huntingdon. Cambs PE18 9NS.

France: Paul Prebble, 3 Victoria Rd., Leighton Buzzard. Beds LU7 7NT.

Germany: Ken Simpson, 13 The Cedars, South Woodham Ferrers, Chelmsford, Essex.

Italy: Trevor Vernon, 82 Dale View Crescent, Chingford, London E4 6EG.

Russia: Chris Bishop, LBDR Bishop CJL, 6-27 Mod Rgt IV, BFPO 107. (But see COA's).

Turkey: Derek Wilson, 321 Headley Rd. East, Woodley, Reading. Berks RG5 4SE.

Off you go gents and the best of luck to you all. As ever, a double deadline is available to you if your diploming isn't finished by the next deadline. You can either ask for it, or not bother sending in your orders until the deadline for T55 in which case I assume that you want a double deadline anyway.

NGC 221, Autumn 1909 (1978 BX) GM: Bob Brown

Austria: A(War) & A(Mos) S A(Ukr) St
(John Foulger)

England: F(Wal)-Lpl, F(Edi)-Cly
(Graham Hewitt)

France: F(Lpl) St, F(WMS)-MAO, A(Mar)-Spa
(Granville Williamson)

Germany: A(Bre) St, A(Dur)-Mar, A(Ruh) S A(Mun) St, A(Hol)-Bel, A(Kie)-Ber,
(Dave Parry) A(Sil) St, F(HBL)-NTH, A(Nor) St, F(NWC) S F(HBL)-NTH

Turkey: F(Maf)-MAO, F(Tun) S F(TYR)-WMS, F(Tus)-GOL, A(Ven)-Pie, A(Tyr)-Mun,
(Francis Weaver) A(Gal) S A(Boh)-Sil, A(Vic)-Boh, A(Rum) & A(Bud) S A(Cal), F(BLA) S
A(Sev) St, A(Bul)-Ser, A(Con)-Bul

Nasties. French F(WMS) annihilated. German A(Sil)-Pru.

Drelech. All the draw proposals were defeated.

Winter 1909

Austria: War, Mos, StP

no change for 3

England: Lon, Edi

no change for 2

France: ~~Maf~~, Por, Spa, Lpl

nowhere to build, 1 short for 3

Germany: Mun, Kie, Ber, Swe, Den, Nor, Bel, Hol, Far, Bre + Mar

builds A(Kie) for 11

Turkey: Ank, Con, Smy, Bul, Gre, Ser, Rum, Bud, Vic, Tri, Sev, Ven, Rom, Nap, Tun

no change for 15

German Gvmt to Austria. If you try anything funny in P/8 again I'll flatten you.

Germany - Turkey. Do you want all the bloody supply centres to yourself? Let me have a few will you?

Germany-France. I really am sorry about this. I feel like a real heel. It is just that in this game it is survival of the fittest and you have been sick for a long time.

David Parry-everyone else. It may interest you to know that our late friend purple Pat (the thick Irishman), is alive and well and living in spirit of the age. You are not going to believe this, but he is actually over the age of twelve as well. (What other revelations will become apparent concerning the players in this superb game? Will we yet confirm that there really is some-one called Graham Hewitt?)

Patrick McHale-everyone. Downt bileev that bluddy lire. Ime not aliev and wel and living in SPRIT OF THE AGE. Ime stil ded from the nek up.

ooo000ooo

Yaratan, Winter 1902/Spring 1903, Stab GM: Bob Brown

Austria (Ian Doherty) A(Bud) St, A(Ser) St, A(Alb)-Tri

England (Jeremy Tullott) F(SKA) S GERMAN A(Den)-Swe

France (John James)

Germany (Gary Murkin) NMR! GM removes F(HBL)

Italy (Graham Box) A(Vic)-Bud, A(Tyr) S A(Ven)-Tri, F(WMS)-MAO ((no such unit))

Russia (Mark Evans) A(Mos)-Sev

Turkey (Dave Thomas) A(Bul) S A(Gre)-Ser, F(BLA) C & P(Rum) S A(Ank)-Sev

Nasties. Austrian A(Ser) annihilated.

England - Mary Gurkin. Keep it up son, I'm coming to help.

England - World: If you can't find Austria's address, send them for me to read (hoh!).

The Kaiser - The Tzar: Agreed! Heads will roll this Autumn!

Cybercrud 3, Autumn 1908

GM: Ron Fisher

Austria: F(Bul) S A(Con), F(ADR)-ION, A(Rom) S F(ION)-Nap, F(TYR) S F(Maf)-WMS,
(Andy Holborn) A(Pic)-Mar, A(Gal)-Sil, A(Jud) S A(Rum)

England: F(MAL)-Ber, A(Yor)-Edi, A(Edi)-Cly, F(Lon)-Yor, F(MAO)-Maf, F(Swo)-Den
(Doug Wakefield)

France: F(SKI)-Nor, A(Irh)-Hol, A(Mar)-Bur, A(Gas)-Mar, F(GOL)-Mar, F(ENG)-Lon
(Allan Owens)

Germany: F(HEL) S F(NTM)-Den, A(Bel)-Bur, A(Mun) S F(Hol)-Kie
(Richard Sharp)

Italy: F(Nap)-TYR
(Stuart Dagger)

Russia: A(War) S A(Ukr) S A(Sev)-Rum
(Willy Haughan)

Turkey: F(Smy) S A(Ank)-Con
(Dave Johnson)

Retreats: Italian F(Nap) chopped.

Winter 1908

| | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Austria: Dud, Tri, Vic, Ser, Gre, Rum, Ven, Bul, Rom, Con, Tun + Nap | builds A(Vic) for 12 |
| England: Edi, Lpl , Lpl , StP, Swe + Ber | removes A(Cly) for 5 |
| France: Mar, Mar, Bre, Ber, Spa, Lpl + Hol, Nor, Lon | builds F(Bre), A(Tar) for 8 |
| Germany: Mun, Lpl , Kie, Den, Lpl + Bel | removes F(HEL) for 4 |
| Italy: Lpl | no change for 0 |
| Russia: Mos, War, Sev | no change for 3 |
| Turkey: Ank, Smy | no change for 2 |

GM -- Turkey: Sorry Cuv -- I've lost your press. Grovel!

ooo000ooo

Cybercrud 3 Bourse, Autumn 1908

GM: Bob Brown

| | <u>Crowns</u> | <u>Pounds</u> | <u>Francs</u> | <u>Marks</u> | <u>Lire</u> | <u>Roubles</u> | <u>Piastres</u> |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Geoffrey Fourmyle | +507 | - | -492 | -499 | - | - | - |
| Pezoco Inc | -500 | -500 | +2253 | -500 | - | -500 | - |
| John Marsden | +822 | -499 | -500 | - | -500 | -500 | - |
| Sercooge & Marley | +638 | -500 | -500 | +1 | -500 | - | - |
| Dealings | +1467 | -1499 | +761 | -998 | -1000 | -1000 | - |
| Old value | 2.96 | 1.62 | 1.58 | 1.45 | 0.58 | 1.09 | 1.45 |
| New value | 3.10 | 1.48 | 1.65 | 1.36 | 0.00 | 0.99 | 1.45 |

Holdings

| | <u>Crowns</u> | <u>Pounds</u> | <u>Francs</u> | <u>Marks</u> | <u>Roubles</u> | <u>Piastres</u> | <u>Victory pts</u> |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Geoffrey Fourmyle | 8871 | 0 | 643 | 1537 | 0 | 0 | 1164 |
| Pezoco Inc | 6058 | 1100 | 3342 | 532 | 1001 | 0 | 1089 |
| John Marsden | 4556 | 2442 | 3492 | 1 | 2500 | 0 | 1007 |
| Sercooge & Marley | 5178 | 1557 | 293 | 315 | 0 | 0 | 715 |

Bourse Player -- Silly Richard

Although you may not quite realise this, if you help Austria to win outright you won't come 2nd, 3rd or even 4th, you'll be EQUAL LAST with everyone else. Isn't it about time you either dropped dead or started helping England & France?

P.S. Where's my copy of Dolchstoss?

Xyster, Autumn 1904 (1978 JI)

GM: Bob Brown

Austria: A(Dud) & A(Ser) S A(Gal)-Rum, F(ION) C A(Gre)-Tun
(Roger Ayre)

England: NMR! A(Lpl), F(Yor), F(ENG), F(HEL), F(Nor), A(Den) stand unordered
(Dave Tucker)

France: F(MAO)-MAO, F(Spa sc)-GOL, F(Gas)-Spa sc
(Saul Ward)

Germany: A(Bre) S A(Par)-Gas, A(Bel)-Hol, A(Mun)-Ber, A(Kie) S F(NTH)-Den
(Chris Bishop)

Italy: A(Naf) St, A(Mar) & F(GOL) S F(MAO)-Spa nc
(Gordon Geddes)

Russia: NMR! A(War), A(Ukr), F(DAL) stand unordered
(Gary Murkin)

Turkey: A(Sev)-Arm, A(Rum) & F(BLA) S A(Con)-Bul, F(Smy)-EMS, F(AEG) S A(Con)-
(Rob Larter) Bul

Nasties. English A(Den) chopped. French F(Gas) annihilated, F(Spa sc)-WMS. Turkish
A(Rum)-Sev.

Winter 1904

| | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| <u>Austria</u> : Dud, Tri, Vie, Ser, Gre + Rum, Tun | no builds ordered, 2 short for 7 |
| <u>England</u> : Edi, Lon, Lpl, Nor, Swe, W | no change for 5 |
| <u>France</u> : W , Par, Por, S | no change for 2 |
| <u>Germany</u> : Ber, Kie, Mun, Hol, Bel, Bre + Den | builds A(Mun) for 7 |
| <u>Italy</u> : Nap, Rom, Ven, W + Mar, Spa | builds F(Nap) for 5 |
| <u>Russia</u> : Mos, StP, War | no change for 3 |
| <u>Turkey</u> : Ank, Con, Smy, Sev, Bul, W | removes A(Arm) for 5 |

Prolech. Various people obviously don't have their minds on their work....

Golicia

The conflict between the opposing armies was becoming more intense as last hopes of a diplomatic solution began to fade. Suddenly, in the midst of the battle, a large circle of ground and the air above it began to shimmer, glow, emit dazzling bursts of oddly disquieting mauve light. The warring parties ceased activity to observe this strange phenomenon.

A blinding flash, followed by a thunderous roar momentarily incapacitated all observers. There before them stood a trio of Deadly Killer Robots.

A hush fell over the battlefield. Those nearest the circle drew back, lest they fall prey to the unpredictable fury of these mechanised destroyers.

"Where is D'Ashwood?" roared the centre DKR. Getting no reply, it swept a strange hideously twisted black antenna in an arc. Everything in its path fell to the ground, began to crumble, turned to dust.

"Death to all who harbour enemies of the Supreme Aubergine! Speak now, or I'll reduce the inter-molecular forces of all of you!"

One of the nearer unfortunates still standing recovered enough to gasp "Oh mercy, the evil and insidious D'Ashwood has not been observed in these parts."

The leftmost DKR examined a humming instrument.

"It seems they tell the truth. According to this our enemy is in the Zephyr continuum."

Not even pausing to exterminate a few more miserable hordes, the DKRs vanished, leaving behind a circle of black smoking earth. The opposing forces looked at each other; by mutual consent, all warfare had ceased for the time being - all appreciated how lucky they were to be left alive.

Ulysses, April 1891, Definitive Mercator

GM: Bob Brown

Argentina: A(HUM) L Ecu, A(Ecu)-Lin, F(TIM)-EIO, A(Phi) St, A(Mex) S F(CHA)-Clf,
(Jon Love) F(CEL)-MAL, F(GIS) MS F(HUM), A(Cgo)-Fez, A(Syd) E F(EIO), A(Phi) E
F(GIS), A(Mex) E F(HUM), F(Jav) unordered

Austria: A(Clu)-Ser, A(Rum) S RUSSIAN A(Cau)-Sev, A(Vic) S A(Poh) S A(Mun),
(Ian Doherty) A(Mun) S A(Tri)-Tyr

Brazil: F(GOM) S A(GOM) L Tex, A(Mag) D F(GHS), A(Iqu) St, F(Ama)-CAR, A(Tex) S
(Don Brown) A(Kan) St, F(GOM) St, A(Ken)-Tan, A/F(CAO) S F(For)-CAM, A/F(GHS) St,
F(SAO) St, A(Tex) E F(GOM), A/F(GOM)-HAT

China: F(Can) S A(Joh)-Tha, F(For) S F(Dor)-SCS, A(Sik) MS A(Can), A(Shn)-Tma
(Jeremy Tullett)

England: A(Den) D F(NTH), A(BAR) L Fin, A(Cly) B F(ROC), F(BAR) S A(StF)-Oms,
(Doug Wakefield) A(Fin) S ITALIAN A(Nor)-Swe, F(NTH) F/F A(Den)-Bel, A(Hol) S A(Den)-
Bel, F(Van nc)-NOM, A/F(ROC)-NWP, F(Oms)-SIS, A(NeY) S F(GMA)-Que,
F(Sai)-GOS, A(Fin) E F(BAR), A(Oms) E F(SIS), A(Hol) E F(NTH), A(NWI) D
F(NOM), A/F(NOM)-NPO, F(NWI)-NWG

Germany: A(Bel) S ITALIAN A(Bur)-Ruh
(Peter Nunn)

India: F(BOB) S A(Dma)-Tha, A(Clc)-Tma, A(Clc) E F(BOB), A/F(BOB)-EIO
(Chris Bishop)

Italy: F(ADR) S A(ADR) L Tri, A(Nor)-Swe, F(CAN)-DIS, A(Dre) St, F(Spa sc)-Por,
(Stuart Dagger) F(Sar)-MAJ, F(ION)-Cro, F(Cro)-ION, A(Bur)-Ruh, A(Zag) S A(Tri)-Bud,
A(Ven)-Tri, A(Tyr) S A(Kls)-Mun

Japan: A(Tok) D F(CPO), A(Bog)-Lim, A(Nii)-Kob, A/F(CPO) S F(Haw)-GIS, A(Vla)-
(Tom Dutcher) Man, F(Fuj)-Osa, F(SOJ) F/F TURKISH A(Sak)-Kor

Russia: NMaarrghh! F(Kie), A(Ber), A(Sax), A(Sil), A(Ukr), A(Mos), A(Vol), A(Cau),
(Andy Norman) A(Tkn), A(Tib), A(Ksu), A(Han), A(Shg), F(Osa) stand unordered

Turkey: A(Del)-Clc, A(Cey) St, F(WIO)-EIO, F(ARA)-WIO, F(Eth)-ARM, A(Sud)-Eth,
(John Marsden) F(Kor)-YEL, A(Sak)-Kor, A(Gro) S A(Ser) S ITALIAN A(Tri)-Bud, F(BLA) S
A(Sev)-Rum, A(Con) S F(AEG)-bul sc, A(Ira) S A(Arm)-Cau, A(Con) E F(BLA),
A(Kor) E F(YEL), A(Cey) E F(EIO), A/F(EIO)-BOB, A(Eth) E F(ARA)

USA: A(Tex) S A(Chi)-Kan
(Geoff Hardingham)

Nasties. Austrian A(Tri) annihilated, A(Rum) chopped, NRO. German A(Bel)-lic. Indian
A(Clc) & A(Dma) both chopped, NRO. Russian A(Cau) chopped. USA A(Tex)-Mex.

Turkey - China. Don't worry, I'm only here to help. I'll go west once you're clear of
Russkies.

Turkey - USA. Congratulations on lasting so long; sorry to see you go.

Turkey(Gvt): Please note short-term COA to Richmond Hill Hotel, Richmond Hill, Richmond.
TW10 6RW.

Prelech. Well this is getting interesting. We have five biggish powers (although Russia
appears to be on the decline and that NMR won't help) and only three of them can hope
to share in a win at most. Who is going to stab who? Argentina and Japan still aren't
out of the race, of course, and will have quite a lot of say in the final result. What
a good game to GM, and I'm glad that the lesser powers are enjoying their participation
as well - most of them anyway.

People keep asking me whether I'm going to run another Mercator and I keep telling
them 'yes - when this one is finished'. One Mercator game at a time is enough because it
takes quite a while to adjudicate and I keep the board made up all the time as an aid to
adjudication (hell, I couldn't do it with-out the board made up) so I'm not going to buy
another set of the map pins I use. What I will do, however, is put you down for the new
game for when it starts. That won't be for a few months yet, but at least you'll have a
place if you're worrying about missing out.

Zephyr, Autumn 1902 (1979 BR)

GM: Bob Brown

Austria: A(Tri) S A(Dud)-Ser, F(Alb)-Gre
(Kristian Norris)

England: F(NWG) S & F(NTH) C A(Yor)-Nor
(Chris Bishop)

France: F(Bre)-Pic, F(MAO)-Spa sc, A(Gas) S A(Spa)-Mar
(Jeffrey Garrett)

Germany: A(Bel)-Pic, A(Ruh)-Bel, A(Dur) S ITALIAN A(Pie)-Mar, F(Den) S F(DAL)-
(Dave Thomas) Swe

Italy: F(VMS)-Spa sc, A(Pie)-Mar, F(ION) S AUSTRIAN F(Alb)-Gre, A(Ven)-Tyr
(Dave Browne)

Russia: F(GOB) S A(Nor)-Swe, A(Gal)-Vie, A(Run)-Bud, F(Sev)-DLA
(Peter McDonald)

Turkey: NMR! A(Ank), F(Con), A(Dul), A(Ser), A(Gre) stand unordered
(Nick Shears)

Hasties. Russian A(Nor)-Fin. Turks A(Ser), A(Gre) both chopped.

Winter 1902

Austria: ~~Ad~~, Tri, ~~W~~, Ser + Cre

no change for 3

England: Edi, Lon, Lpl + Nor

builds F(Lon) for 4

France: Bre, Mar, Par, Por + Spa

builds A(Par) for 5

Germany: Ber, Kie, Mun, Den, Hol + Bel

builds A(Mun) for 6

Italy: Nap, Rom, Ven, Tun

no change for 4

Russia: Mos, Sev, StP, War, Rum + Bud, Vie

builds F(StPsc), A(Mos) for 7

Turkey: Ank, Con, Smy, Bul, ~~Ad~~

1 short for 4

Neutral: Swe

The Court of King Screwtape

The King, his advisers, and assembled mish-mash, observed the snivelling wreck on the floor.

"Oh most magnificent, wise, just, honest, merciful Majesty, look upon one miserable would-be subject, Frank D'Ashwood, who flings himself at your feet in the hope of the chance to serve your most illustrious self."

Screwtape smiled to himself. This was more like the behaviour he expected of his subjects.

"The fates have been unkind to me, and I flee across the very space-time continuum of Diplomacy itself to escape the Deadly Killer Robots, sent by the Supreme Aubergine to capture me and return me to unspeakable horrors. I promise to be the humblest of humble of your servants, I will wash your toes with my tongue, no service will be beneath me if you only protect me from the pursuing forces."

At the mention of Deadly Killer Robots, the surrounding crowd had drawn back with horror. Hastily Screwtape's advisers rushed to him lest he momentarily forget the danger and agree to harbour the miserable D'Ashwood. They needn't have bothered - King Screwtape knew only too well what protecting the enemies of the Supreme Aubergine would mean. He leapt off his jewel-encrusted throne, scattering priceless cornflakes all around him, as he rushed to D'Ashwood, seized him, sprinted to the castle gates and flung him out.

"Go, D'Ashwood, and do not enter my Kingdom again lest the wrath of the Aubergine falls on me. Depart!" With that he flung closed the gates, stormed back to his palace and waved away everyone. Shuddering, he tried to put out of his mind the thought of Deadly Killer Robots descending upon his Empire, and fell into a deep, troubled sleep.

Machiavelli approached the awesome presence of his Lord with trepidation. "Your orders have been issued to all Commanders, your Omnipotence," he said. "And attacks and supports commenced accordingly. We can now only await the outcome."

Screwtape eyed him balefully. "Let us all hope things go better this season than heretofore," he snarled. "Or some of us are going to find ourselves short of various appendages and bits and pieces," and he looked meaningfully at Machiavelli. "I only wish," Screwtape continued, "that I knew who was on my bloody side - come to that who is on who's side would be a help." He sighed. "Either I'm losing my touch or the opposition is getting smarter."

Zephyr Press concluded

Germany - Russia:

'Let us, then, be up and doing,
With a heart for any fate;
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labour, & to wait'
(A Psalm of Life, Longfellow)

Changes of Address

Stuart Dagger to 7 Shirebank Crescent, Fulwood, Preston PR2 4QE (until 16th July).
Chris Bishop to 5 Dunstan Rd., Windmill Hill, Glastonbury, Somerset (25/7-15/8).
Ian Forsyth to 6 Ardrossan Rd., Saltcoats, Ayrshire.
John Foulger to 35 Fellside Rd., Whickham, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE16 4JR (Tel Whickham 084391)
John Marsden to C/O Richmond Hill Hotel, Richmond Hill, Richmond TW10 6RW.
Pete Lindsay to Top Right Flat, 1 Lower Gilmore Place, Bruntsfield, Edinburgh.

Waiting Lists

Regular Diplomacy (Gamefee 75p): P. McCarthy (?), P. Jones, F. Weaver, I. Giles.

Switch Playtest (No gamefee): G. Chase, G. Hardingham, D. Parry, K. Simpson, 3 needed.

Mercator (Gamefee £1): C. Bishop, M. Robson, D. Parry. As I explained on page 18, I am allowing this list to be opened, but the game will not start until Ulysses has ended.

Railway Rivals (Gamefee 30p): D. Brown, G. Hardingham.

En Garde (Gamefee 50p for first year, 20p per year thereafter): Contact Dave Waring.

Your credit is *****

Trade *****

Free *****

Miscellaneous Ramblings cont

I've been listening to the latest of my records/tapes as I've been typing this. I have acquired the first Dire Straits LP from John Jones (bless his little cotton socks) and, apart from the single 'Sultans of Swing', it has some nice tracks on it. The LP falls largely into what I call boogie. On the other side of the tape is 'City to City' by Gerry Rafferty which tends to be rather much of a muchness but is still pleasant to listen to. I've been listening to Joni Mitchell's 'Blue' a lot recently - it's an oldish album but really superb. However, top of my likes at the moment is 'Black Rose' from, you guessed, Thin Lizzy. I wasn't very impressed by the LP when I bought it, but it definitely improves with listening. Apart from the excellent 'Waiting for an Alibi' which came out as a single (there's also another track been put out as a single, I believe) there are several other good tracks, but easily the best for me is the title track 'Roisin Dubh' (Dark Rosaleen). This is a mixture of folk tunes such as 'Shenandoah' and a Fairport one which I can't quite place together with words taken from an old poem about the wars between Queen Maeve of Connaught and the Red Branch Knights of Ulster. Cuchulain, the Hound of Ulster, was the champion and the greatest of all the heroes of the Red Branch. I leave you with one of the verses to the song:

Pray tell me the story of young Cuchulain,
How his eyes were dark and his expression sullen,
And how he'd fight and always won,
And how they cried when he had fallen.

Tell me the story of the Queen of this land,
And how her sons died at her own hands,
And how fools obey commands.
Tell me the legends of long ago.

The Tinamou no. 53 from Bob Brown, 53 Broadwood Drive, Fulwood, Preston. Lancs PR2 4SS.